

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend Page 1, above line 1, by inserting the following:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 of Austrian Patent Application No. A 220/98 filed February 6, 1998. Priority is also claimed under 35 U.S.C. §365 of PCT patent application number PCT/AT99/00030 filed February 4, 1999. The PCT patent application was not published in English under PCT article 21(2). U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/601,752 filed September 22, 2000, is a 371 of said PCT/AT99/00030 filed February 4, 1999. This patent application is a divisional patent application under 35 U.S.C. 120 and 35 U.S.C. 121 of copending parent patent application Serial No. 10/265,124 filed October 4, 2002, which in turn is a divisional patent application under 35 U.S.C. 120 and 35 U.S.C. 121 of co-pending grandparent patent application Serial No. 09/601,752 filed September 22, 2000.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention -

On Page 1, between lines 2 and 3, please insert:

--2. The Prior Art --.

On Page 1, please amend lines 1 and 2 to read as follows:

~~--The invention relates to control elements of the type described in the introductory part of claim 1. . --~~

On Page 2, please amend the paragraph in lines 1 to 3 to read as follows:

~~--The invention, furthermore, also relates to means for the relative movement between a moving element and a valve body of the type as described in the introductory part of claim 44. .--~~

On Page 2, please amend the paragraph in lines 19 to 20 to read as follows:

--The invention, however, also concerns a moving element ~~as it is described in the introductory part of claim 45.~~ .--

On Page 3, please amend the paragraph in lines 1 to 8 to read as follows:

--Finally, the invention also concerns a method of producing a relative movement between a moving element and a valve body, ~~as it is described in the introductory part of claim 51,~~ whereby known methods effect such a relative movement by exerting a tensile force or a force of pressure on the moving element, such forces being produced by generating electromagnetic forces acting on an intermediate element, which disadvantageously increases the switching times because of the mass of the intermediate elements.--

On Page 3, between lines 8 and 9, please insert:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

On Page 3, please amend the paragraph in lines 9 to 15 to read as follows:

--Therefore, ~~the problem~~ an object of the invention is to

provide a control element that comprises a low number of individual components; a means for the relative movement between a moving element and a valve body; a moving element for a control element; and a method of generating a relative movement, which permit the shortest possible switching times and which can be realized with the smallest possible dimensions.--

On Page 3, please amend the paragraph in lines 16 to 32 to read as follows:

--The ~~problem~~ object of the invention is achieved by the present invention. ~~solved by the features described in the characterizing part of claim 1.~~ The surprising advantage in this connection is that the switching time and the kinetic energy are reduced by the arrangement and design of the means as defined by the invention, through which a substantially reduced cycle time and lower operating costs are realized especially in connection with automated manufacturing installations.--

On Page 4, please amend all the paragraphs to read as follows:

--Advantageous is in this connection a further development of the invention, ~~according to claim 2,~~ by which the operating

costs and in particular the energy costs are reduced.

However, advantageous is also an embodiment, ~~according to claim 3,~~ through which it is made possible to provide the control element with a small structural size.

A design variation ~~according to claim 4~~ offers the advantage that the structural size of the control element can be reduced further, as well as the possibility of actuating the control element in a rapid manner.

However, possible are also the variations, ~~according to claims 5 and 6,~~ through which components of the control element are saved and the manufacturing costs of the control element are consequently reduced accordingly.

Favorable, however, is also a further development of the invention, ~~according to claim 7,~~ by which media are prevented from exiting from the transmission element.

A design variation ~~according to claim 8~~ is advantageous because the generation of kinetic energy is facilitated in this manner in a simple way.--

On Page 5, please amend all the paragraphs to read as follows:

--A design variation ~~according to claim 9~~ is advantageous because it permits building the control element in a compact form.

A further development of the invention ~~according to claim 10~~ offers the advantage that standard elements can be used for the structure of the control element, so that the manufacturing costs of the control element can be substantially reduced.

Favorable, however, is also a design variation ~~according to claim 11~~ because it makes it possible to individually, i.e. separately control the actors that are actuated by the control element or control elements.

Possible is also a further development, ~~according to claim 12,~~ through which wear is reduced in a simple way and the manufacturing and maintenance costs are consequently reduced.

A design variation ~~according to claim 13~~ is advantageous because the moving element can be positioned with greater accuracy, and precise coordination of the switching times in the

switching routes is facilitated.

A design variation ~~according to claim 14~~ is advantageous in that it is characterized by high flexibility with respect to the individual switching possibilities of the control element.--

On Page 6, please amend all the paragraphs to read as follows:

--The further development ~~according to claim 15~~ offers the advantage that media are prevented from circulating when the moving element is in its closing position.

A further possibility is described, ~~in claim 16,~~ through which the structural size of the control element can be reduced further.

Advantageous is also a design variation, ~~according to claim 17,~~ through which a double functionality of the control element is achieved with respect to the control of the flow and in regard to exact positioning possibilities.

~~Claim 18~~ It describes an advantageous variation that permits even more positioning accuracy of the control element or moving

element.

Possible is also a further development of the invention, ~~according to claim 19,~~ which provides a line connection with stop means which, when energy is admitted, exert an electromagnetic force on the moving element and thereby lock the latter in a predetermined position.

The design variation ~~according to claim 20~~ offers the advantage that line connections can be installed that will not obstruct the relative movement of the moving element.--

On Page 7, please amend all of the paragraphs to read as follows:

--In the embodiment, ~~according to claim 21,~~ a line connection to the means is established in a simple way.

Favorable, however, is also a further development of the invention, ~~according to claim 22,~~ through which it is possible to prevent an undesirable relative movement of the moving element resulting from pressure admission.

The features specified in ~~claim 23~~ facilitate the installation of the control element in an advantageous way.

Advantageous, however, is also a design variation, ~~according to claim 24,~~ through which a spring effect is achieved, so that additional means for the relative movement can be saved.

The further development of the invention ~~according to claims 25 to 27~~ represents advantageous measures, through which the structural size of the control element can be minimized further.

~~Claim 28~~ It describes a favorable variation through which any unintentional relative movement of the moving element is prevented.

A further development ~~according to claim 29~~ is advantageous in that free mobility of the moving element is assured in the released state of the holding and/or locking device.

On Page 8, please amend all of the paragraphs to read as follows:

--~~claim 30~~ It describes an advantageous design variation through which the energy requirement of the holding and/or

locking device is reduced by controlling the heating elements in a way occurring in the form of a star.

Favorable embodiments are described, ~~in claims 31 and 32,~~ through which the volume of the flow passing through the control element can be varied in a simple way.

Possible, however, is also a variation, ~~according to claim 33,~~ through which a corresponding transmission element can be associated with each heating element, and the control element can be easily installed in this way.

An embodiment ~~according to claim 34~~ is advantageous in that a line connection can be made in a simple way, and in that the installation or removal of the control element is facilitated further in this manner.

Advantageous in this connection is a further development, ~~according to claim 35,~~ through which the manufacture of the control element is facilitated further.

The tightness and the centering of the moving element are assured in a simple manner by the design variation ~~according to claim 36.~~ -

On Page 9, please amend all of the paragraphs to read as follows:

--Favorable design variations are described, ~~in claims 37 and 38,~~ through which automatic resetting of the moving element is achieved when the volume of the cover changes.

However, possible is also a further development of the invention, ~~according to claim 39,~~ through which a multitude of switching possibilities are created that are independent of each other, and moving elements are not influenced by means for other moving elements.

Advantageous is a variation, ~~according to claim 40,~~ through which any unintentional axial movement of the moving element is prevented.

Advantageous in this connection is an embodiment, ~~according to claim 41,~~ through which elastic resetting of the holding and/or locking device is achieved.

Another favorable variation is achieved, ~~with claim 42,~~ through which the holding and/or locking device can be reset by

means of current.

The embodiment ~~according to claim 43~~ provides for a desirable elastic deformation of the holding and/or locking device, which makes locking or cancellation of the lock easy.--

On Page 10, please amend all the paragraphs to read as follows:

--However, the ~~problem~~ object of the invention is ~~solved~~ achieved also by the features described. ~~in the characterizing part of claim 44.~~ The advantage in this connection is that no additional elements have to be mounted on the outside of the control element, which means the dimensions and structural sizes of such means or control elements can be reduced.

The ~~problem~~ object of the invention, however, is ~~solved~~ achieved also by the features described. ~~in the characterizing part of claim 45.~~ The surprising advantage gained in this connection is that the moving element has only a low amount of mass, which means switching positions can be changed in the shortest possible time.

Advantageous is in this connection the design variation, ~~according to claim 46,~~ through which an over-dead point position of the moving element is created and any automatic change of the switching position is prevented.

The further development of the invention ~~according to claim 47~~ is advantageous in that good tightness is assured in the respective switching position.

Favorable further developments of the invention are described, ~~in claims 48 to 50,~~ which assure movement of the moving element with low energy expenditure.--

On Page 11, please amend all the paragraphs in lines 1 to 13 to read as follows:

--Finally, the ~~problem object~~ of the invention is ~~solved~~ achieved also by the features described, ~~in the characterizing part of claim 51.~~ It is advantageous in this connection that the kinetic force can be generated directly within the zone of the moving element, the result being a reduction of switching times.

Advantageous is in this connection also a design variation, ~~according to claim 52,~~ through which switching times can be reduced further.

Advantageous is a further development of the invention ~~according to claim 53~~ in that it reduces the energy expenditure.

Possible is finally a design variation, ~~according to claim 54,~~ through which it is possible to achieve exact positioning of the moving elements.--

On Page 11, between lines 13 and 14, please insert:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

On Page 12, between lines 8 and 9, please insert:

--FIG. 7 shows another design variation of the control element as defined by the invention, by a section view.--

On Page 16, between lines 11 and 12, please insert the following:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--